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U. S. Sanitary Commission.

[Circular, June 10, 1864.]

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF BOSTON ASSOCIATES,

No. 76, Kingston Street,

BOSTON, June 10, 1864.

During the period of a little more than two months that has elapsed since the preparation of the accompanying Report, our armies in Virginia and the South-west have entered upon the most active and formidable campaign of the war.

The Commission, with larger facilities, and a more thoroughly organized Relief Service than ever before, is administering its varied work of relief, with the most gratifying efficiency and directness, throughout the wide field of its operations.

Its Special Relief Service at this point has, at the same time, assumed increased scope and importance. Under existing arrangements, the slightly wounded from the battle-fields of Virginia are permitted to go, upon furlough, directly to their homes to recruit, instead of being sent into hospital. Large numbers of this class arrive daily at the Relief Rooms of the Commission in this city.

In order, also, to relieve the hospitals in Washington and vicinity, a process of transfer is continually going on, by which the wounded

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are removed to such hospital accommodations as are available at remote points. Under this arrangement, large numbers of Maine, New-Hampshire, and Massachusetts soldiers are now arriving at this point, *en route* to Government hospitals in their respective States.

The majority of all these come more or less directly under the care of this branch of the Commission's Special Relief Service, when they enter our hospital cars at New York, and are daily transported, with every possible appliance for their comfort, to this city. Upon reaching our Relief Rooms, they receive such attention as their various and individual wants require; their wounds are dressed; they are washed, fed, and clothed; and, rested and refreshed, are sent on to their homes or hospitals — such as are too severely wounded, or too seriously ill to travel alone, being sent in charge of a special attendant.

A branch of the "Hospital Directory Department" of the Commission has also been undertaken, in connection with the Special Relief Service in this city. It is a directory or bureau of information, daily revised, wholly in the interest of military patients and their friends, and is designed to furnish, without charge, recent and accurate information concerning every patient in military hospitals.

The enlarged scope and increased importance of this work involves an increased expenditure, due provision for which engages the serious consideration of the Executive Committee. The issue of the accompanying Report, exhibiting the results of the Service during the first year of its administration, is deemed a fitting occasion to present to the friends of the Commission, in this city

and vicinity, its claims upon their continued support, and the necessity which exists that this shall be ensured by timely and adequate pecuniary aid.

The increasing necessity and importance of the work, and its economical and humane results, justify the Committee, it is believed, in confidently anticipating that its wants will be cordially and liberally met, and that contributions will be promptly made, without further personal application, to the Treasurer, J. Huntington Wolcott, No. 82, Milk Street.

H. B. ROGERS,
JAMES M. BARNARD,
JNO. S. BLATCHFORD,
J. HUNTINGTON WOLCOTT,
Executive Committee.

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